



We look forward to working with you on your upcoming wedding. We look forward to capturing all the grandeur of your day in a natural, spontaneous and fun way! Pre-planning helps insure the least amount of stress on your wedding day. We want to make sure you get to do what you want on your wedding day. “Your day ... Your way!”

Posing for pictures on your wedding day may be an important part of your family’s tradition or may be an activity you would rather avoid. The enclosed paperwork is designed to help communicate to us exactly what you require in regards to wedding-day photography. Please be sure to discuss and share this information with your parents also as they may have unique photography expectations that should be addressed beforehand.

Please fill out this paperwork and return to us prior to your wedding date. This pre-organizational plan will help insure that your day goes your way! Much of this paperwork may not apply to you if we aren’t doing ‘posed’ pictures, at least return the initial survey form. Let me know if you have any questions, concerns or special requests.

Please note: We really take seriously our role as an ‘outside observer’ unobtrusively documenting what is really going on, so we won’t be doing a lot of directing or interrupting except during formal group shots. If after the wedding you say, “We never got a picture of my Aunt & Uncle looking at the camera and smiling while on the dance floor” our answer will be “your Aunt & Uncle never looked at the camera and smiled for the photographer while they were on the dance floor!”

We are here for you and want to be sure you get everything you want! It is YOUR wedding day and YOU are in-charge of it, if you think we should get pictures “in front of the building” or more pictures “out on the beach” you will have to tell us that at the event while we still have time to do something about it, not several months later.

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Pre-Wedding Photography survey and worksheets

Please take this survey and make notes on this paperwork and return copies to us so we can insure the photos on your wedding day are just as you planned.

"It's your day ...have it your way"

Please check ALL that apply:

Names/Wedding Date _____

We are: Very Traditional. Somewhat Traditional. Untraditional. NOT Traditional. Far Out.

When it comes to photos we: Enjoy having our picture taken. One is for, One against.
 Would rather not be in front of the camera. Seldom look good in pictures.

Regarding posed group pictures on our wedding day: We don't want any. We will do them because our family wants them. We plan to put them in our album. They are our favorites!

B&W: Please take as many Black & White photos as our package allows because we love them! Black & White pictures are OK, but not our favorite. We don't care for Black & White's. Black & White photos that have a grainy look to them are often artsy and cool! We don't like grainy Black & White photos but prefer B&W that looks smooth.

We like realistic photos better than fantasy. Obviously enhanced, altered and stylized 'dreamy' photos are really cool. Blurry photos can often be artistically pleasing. Blurry photos are bad photos. We would like some special-effect shots i.e.: super-saturation, starburst, magnified motion, funky colors, infrared, spot tinting, fuzzy focus, colorization, duo-tone. Specific requests: _____

After the ceremony we want to spend: No time posing for pictures. 20-30 minutes posing for pictures.
 30-60 minutes posing for pictures. As much time as it takes to get through our list.

We really don't want to be late for our reception. The reception won't start until we get there.
 We have lots of time between the ceremony and the reception to pose for pictures.
 Our schedule is flexible. We would rather be on time to the reception even if it means skipping some of the pictures we wanted. Notes: _____

We want to take posed pictures: Before the ceremony. After the ceremony. During the reception with the people we missed after the ceremony. During the reception with anyone that wants a picture with the bride and groom. Sometime during the reception with just the bride & groom alone when we can sneak away without being missed. Never. Notes: _____

We plan to party at the reception and mainly want candid without posing. At the reception we want pictures of: Introduction. The first dance. Daddy/daughter dance. Mother/son dance. Money dance.
 The cake cutting. The toast. Flower toss. Garder removal. Garder toss. Exit/Farwell bubbles? birdseed? flower petals? Other Important Events. explain:

 Important Items (i.e. bride is wearing grandmas earrings, moms scarf, etc.) explain:

The photos taken on my wedding day will: Be a chronological story-line of everything that happened that day. Freeze a moment in time that shows everything just as it was. Probably make me cry when I look back at the emotions shared that day. Remind me of everyone that was there and all the good times we had. Show us looking our best in beautiful surroundings.

Pre-planning notes and reminders

(use these guidelines as they apply to your event)

- Please make sure that everyone involved in your pre-wedding portrait session (1½ -2 hours before the wedding) are dressed, made-up and ready on time. (may include parents, grandparents, invited guests and wedding party) Let us know if you want these taken as formal portraits (posed and looking at the camera) or more casual photojournalistic style (where everyone is naturally interacting and the photos are taken without the guests looking at the camera.)
- If you prefer the photojournalistic style where people are NOT looking at the camera, be sure to tell your guests to 'ignore' the cameraman.
- If you want the flowers in the pre-wedding photos, be sure they arrive 30 minutes before the photos begin.
- Ask someone in the bridal party to be the 'bridal coordinator' (someone who knows most of the people involved in the photo sessions) to help the photographer's assistant with bringing together the people for the photographs.
- Be sure everyone involved in the photo sessions have been given a copy of the agenda/schedule and the guidelines.
- Please DO NOT bring anyone not in the group photos, if people gather it will be the responsibility of the bridal coordinator to insure they remain well out of the way so as not to delay the days events.
- Make sure that those family members you wish to have included in your formal family portraits remain at the church after the ceremony. (Dan Harris PhotoArt cannot be held responsible for any shots that may be missed due to your guests not being ready)
- Ask someone to assist you with your dress so as to avoid dirt and damage in outdoor settings.
- Our policy of NO guest photography during the group photography sessions is for your sake as well as ours. The time for photographs after the ceremony is very limited, our concentration and speed are important; you've hired a professional to do the job right don't let your guests ruin your professional photos and cause unnecessary delays.

Typical traditional pre-wedding portrait session picture list

Check those wanted and note changes as required ~ Wedding Date _____

Bride and Groom do NOT want to see each other before the ceremony.

Bride Alone –full length gown, head & shoulders

Bride w/parents –w/mom, w/dad, w/siblings, w/family

Bride's Siblings w/spouses? & w/families?

Bride w/flowergirl

Bride w/maid/matron of honor

Bride w/each bridesmaid individually?

Bride w/bridesmaids (inc. flower girl) group shots

Bride w/groomsmen (inc. ring bearer) group shots

Other requested shots: _____

(Bride leaves – bring in groom)

Groom w/bridesmaids & flower girl? (girls leave to join bride –except groom's sister?)

Groom w/groomsmen & ring bearer

Groom w/best man

Groom w/ring bearer

Groom w/each groomsman individually?

Groom w/parents -w/mom, w/dad, w/siblings, w/family

Groom's Siblings w/spouses? w/families?

Groom Alone –full length, head & shoulders

Other requested shots: _____

Photography Group worksheet* (immediately after the ceremony) Wedding Date _____

If we are doing formal group pictures, please return this sheet with your notes prior to your wedding date. Expected number of people in attendance at wedding/reception _____ (max 25 people per photo) Is there 2-3+ steps/levels at the ceremony location or will the photographer be working from flat ground?

Explain: _____
Photos of well organized groups take aprox. 2.5 minutes per small group (less than 10 people) and 10 minutes per large group 15+

Bride and Groom in every shot with: _____ Names to announce: _____ Aprox. # in photo _____

1. Officiator _____
2. Bride's Multi-Generational Family Group? _____
3. Bride's Extended Family? (aunts/uncles/cousins) _____ Number of people _____
4. Bride's Immediate Family _____
5. Bride's Grandparents _____
6. Bride's Step Parents? _____
7. Bride's Parents _____
8. Bride's and Groom's Parents? _____
9. Groom's Parents _____
10. Groom's Multi-Generational Family Group? _____
11. Groom's Extended Family? (aunts/uncles/cousins) _____ Number of people _____
12. Groom's Immediate Family _____
13. Groom's Grandparents _____
14. Groom's Step Parents? _____
15. Young Children? (ring bearer/flower girl) _____
16. Best Man and Maid of Honor _____
17. Bridesmaids as a group w/groom (total # _____) (if not done before)
18. Groomsmen as a group w/bride (total # _____) (if not done before)
19. Complete Wedding Party (total # _____)
20. Bride and Groom alone: ceremony location and additional locations? _____

*This worksheet is a rough outline of notes to be used by the bridal party for organizational purposes only and is not contractually binding. Due to the limited and subjective nature of the event and the uncertainty of the guests in attendance, Dan Harris PhotoArt cannot be held responsible for missed photographs.

_____ check here if you want a major group shot** (25+ people). This photo is often best taken at the reception location after everyone has eaten (have MC announce when it is time). Aprox. Number of people _____ Sometimes we can do this at the church from the balcony while everyone is standing facing the back of the church (or we can bring our 16 foot ladder to accommodate.) Will the photographer have access to a balcony that can overlook the total group or large stairs that can accommodate everyone for this picture at the reception location? Explain: _____

**note: This type of photo requires extra setup time and pre-planning if you want it to come out half-way decent.

You are invited to the private group photo session directly after the service.

Once everyone has cleared out (5-10 minutes after the service) we will meet for formal group photos at the front --at the ceremony location.

We need your help to insure our complete wedding-day experience is enjoyable for all.

During any formal photo session please leave the photography to the highly-skilled professionals we have hired. Please stay close, quiet and ready for your photograph when called so we don't end up late to our reception. Guest photography will be restricted during the ceremony and group photo sessions but unrestricted at the reception.

So you won't miss anything, we have made special arrangements to have all the photos posted online with reprints available for only \$6 ea. Go to www.GreatWeddingPhotography.com click on View an Event and follow the directions, the password will be the bride's first name followed by the wedding day date.



Reception Group Photography

Our staff is here for you and we will be happy to take impromptu group shots at the reception of any group you or your parents pull together. It is NOT our custom to take 'table shots' or a 'smiley' shot of each guest unless we discuss and pre-plan for it. I want to make it clear up front that unlike many 'traditional' wedding photographers we will NOT be taking a 'documentary photo' of every guest in attendance NOR will we interrupt your event by pulling impromptu groups together for group shots (except by special request or as required by law enforcement for alibi purposes.)



A note to the bridal party and their families:

On rare instances there may be 'aggressive paparazzi guest photographers' at your wedding who: stand up and move around during the ceremony; flash during a dark ceremony at the same time we are taking non-flash pictures thus ruining our picture; step into the aisle blocking the professional camera at the back; flash when we flash during the group photo session or yell out for groups to 'stop and look here', this will NOT be allowed.

Although the bridal party and their families can have some influence by helping educate the other guests, sometimes not everyone 'gets the memo'. In those rare instances, we will be forced to 'be the bad guy' and will ask the offending guest to return to their seat or leave the area. We apologize in advance for the unjustified bad-mouthing and whining you may hear from this 'offended' guest because they refused to act professionally.

This policy will be strictly enforced during the ceremony and any group photo sessions we have planned but will NOT apply to the reception festivities. Please let us know if you have any specific concerns or issues we need to be made aware of beforehand.

